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Editorial

PROFESSOR KOCH ON BOVINE AND HUMAN TUBERCULOSIS.

The "Medical Press and Circular" of the 31st of July says: "The announcement of an address on a subject so peculiarly his own by the justly celebrated German bacteriologist was an important item on the programme of the Congress on Tuberculosis, and it did not fail to attract a large and appreciative audience. The address itself, though characterized by the persuasive decision of an investigator who is dealing. with facts within his own knowledge, came upon the audience like 'a bolt from the blue.' Hitherto the problem of preventing the spread of pulmonary tuberculosis has been based in very great measure upon the assumption that human beings are infected to an unknown but presumably considerable extent by the ingestion of contaminated articles of food, notably the milk and flesh of diseased animals. In other words, it has all along been assumed that tuberculosis in man and animals is one and the same disease, and as the process of restricting the sale of infected food presents vastly less practical difficulty than that of preventing its spread from man to man, a huge superstructure of preventive measures has been erected on this basis. Judge then of the